

2015 - 2016 City Council Goal TOP 10 GOALS

Goal Accomplishments since last publication are shown in bold.

1. Play active role to grow the local economy (*City Manager's Office, Business and Community Development*)

- a) Submit Golden Leaf or seek other matching funds to support Lexington Business Development Consortium (LBDC) by establishing a fund that could help assist business development (current and recruit)
- b) Active participation with Davidson County Economic Development Commission
- c) Develop inventory and an interactive listing of available commercial property for posting on City's webpage and to draw from for inquiries to assist with locating
- d) Contract with Retail Strategies with representation at 2 ICSC retail trade shows and dialogue with a minimum of 10 targeted businesses from list

Accomplishments:

- Accepted Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) building reuse economic development grants for Piedmont Candy (\$750,000) and MasterBrand Cabinets (\$750,000), in partnership with Davidson County EDC
- Authorized submission of CDBG building reuse economic development grant for Cider Bros. LLC., in partnership with Davidson County EDC
- Approved Major Zoning Permit for May Heavy Equipment
- Approved Major Zoning Permit for Jerry Hunt Truck and Auto Supercenter
- Rezoned property on South Main Street and 456 Central Avenue to Business District
- Approved Wastewater Collection and Treatment Agreement with Davidson County for I-85 Corporate Park
- **United Furniture recycled former Linwood Plant to expand with new Triad Distribution Center**

2. Continue to expand recreational opportunities for citizens (*Parks and Recreation*)

- a) Implement the 'Re-creation of Recreation' master plan by:
 1. Inaugural season of the newly renovated community pool
 2. Contingent upon timing of grant funding, begin renovation of Washington Park
 3. Kick start community involvement and planning for the Youth Recreation Center project and Radcliffe Park renovation
- b) Increase recreational program offerings, including health/wellness
- c) Enhance marketing and social media efforts to increase participation and awareness of free, self-serve recreational activities such as walking trails, courts, etc.

Accomplishments:

- Sponsored four (4) *Kids Swim Free* Days at the Lexington Aquatic Park (LAP)
- Successful inaugural season at the LAP
- Approved creating 2016 Recreation Improvement Capital Project and funding preliminary pre-construction costs (Washington Park)
- Partnered with J Smith Young YMCA to offer Coed Volleyball League
- Installed pickleball court at two parks (Bingham Tennis Center and Old Charles England School Park)
- Received second \$25,000 installment grant from Wiese Family Charitable Fund
- Established Fee Guidelines for Recreational Programs

- Received grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina to install PlayPrint at Finch Park
- Approved Agreement with J. Smith Young YMCA for Management and Operation of the Lexington Aquatic Park for 2016 Summer Programs
- **Recreation Program Enhancements**
(New Family Programs/Events)
- **Citizens and Students Public Input Sessions in Design of Upcoming Projects**
(Washington Park and Radcliffe Skateboard Park)

3. Focus efforts on improving the City's appearance (*City Manager's Office, ALL Departments*)

- a) Enact commercial standards code for Uptown District
- b) Finalize renovations of Municipal Club and City Hall including the historic preservation of the original barbecue pits
- c) Install new sidewalk on East 3rd Avenue

Accomplishments:

- Completed renovations of Commons on the Green and Chamber hosted Business After Hours for Open House
- Converted Uptown Lexington Decorative Lights to LED
- Adopted Uptown Zoning District Commercial Property Standards Code to become effective July 1, 2016
- **Demolition of dilapidated buildings at the Utilities Complex Site**
- **City Hall Renovations including preservation of Historical Becks BBQ Pits nearing completion in Uptown District**

4. Develop Depot District including advocating for passenger railstop (*City Manager's Office, Business and Community Development*)

- a) Continue selective demolition in the Depot District
- b) Utilize Independent Expert Panel to review Depot District redevelopment projects
- c) Actively pursue development agreement for one building in the Depot District (solicit, collaborate for shared vision, negotiate deal with clawbacks)
- d) Complete TIGER II grant and remain actively engaged with partners (Norfolk Southern, US Department of Transportation, Federal Rail Administration, NC Department of Transportation, NC Railroad Company) to maintain and build momentum, pushing for shorter time frames to construction
- e) Prepare and submit TIGER VII application for construction funding for passenger rail stop and station

Accomplishments:

- Bull City Ciderworks production and distribution facility located in Depot District
- **Brownfield Agreement negotiations with the State to ensure all land uses would be permitted and to provide assurance for future developers against liability for prior contamination – important component in attracting developers to purchase property**
- **Negotiations with State Historic Preservation office to avoid designation as a local historic site**
- **Submitted Environmental Analysis (EA) to Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for approval**

- FRA has placed Lexington on the internal ‘projects ready for funding’ list and the project is well-positioned for receiving a construction grant – construction grants require 20% match
- Responded to more than 25 inquiries concerning potential redevelopment in Depot District (i.e. future amphitheater)
- Prepared appraisals on two Depot District buildings
- Showed Depot District buildings to 11 developers
- Marketing efforts made to promote the Depot District on City Hall Banners
- Social media and public exposure to Depot District Area by Amtrak tourists attending Lexington Barbecue Festival

5. Support programs that will prepare students for good citizenship, successful future and jobs (*City Manager’s Office, Parks and Recreation, ALL Departments*)

- a) Support Lexington City Government Youth Council
- b) Transition current Youth Recreation Advisory Council into a Volunteer and Leadership Development program
- c) Lexington Police Department play active role in juvenile crime prevention
- d) Attend career fair at the high schools and conduct job demonstrations by various departments

Accomplishments:

- Provided support for Kidz Dreamz Club Back-To-School Giveaway
- Made appointments to Lexington City Government Youth Council
- Featured in November issue of EducationNC for active participation in Lexington City Schools’ “Visit Our School” program

Water Resources Civil Engineer and Waste Treatment Plant staff conduct classes for high school students

(Career 2015 Career Expo at Yadkin Valley Regional Career Academy “Aligning STEM With High School and Beyond” and Water and Environmental Resources Class at West Davidson High School)

- Lexington City Government Youth Council involvement and activities
(Visited Lexington Police Crime Lab and input in Design of Washington Park and Radcliffe Skateboard Park)
- Lexington Police Department partnership with Davidson County Community College for Student Internship for Special Programs
- Lexington Police Department offers mentorship program with South Lexington Elementary Kindergarten in partnership with Communities in School

6. Maintain City’s financial integrity while enhancing government services (*Finance, ALL Departments*)

- a) Pursue grants that permit new initiatives or offset the use of local revenues
- b) Work to establish policies that would decrease number of utility payment arrangements for delinquent customers
- c) Enhance Customer Service through service kiosk, digital contracts, etc.
- d) Enhance financial accountability, streamline and standardize operations by implementing automated work order system
- e) Continue to maximize technology, automation and reorganization efforts to achieve efficiencies and cost containment

Accomplishments:

- Completed Lexington Aquatic Park project with \$33,600 remaining in unexpended debt proceeds
- Received \$13,401 Grant to purchase and program six VIPER hand-held radios
- Received \$5,000 grant from ElectriCities to offset costs of converting Uptown Lexington Decorative Lights to LED
- Submitted PARTF Grant Application for Tri-Distributor Building Acquisition
- Received \$217,500 PARTF Grant for redevelopment of Washington Park
- **Received \$4,000 from Vested Interest in K9's for 2 ballistic K9 Vests**
- **Received \$18,695 from Governor's Crime Commission Grant and \$5,000 from Spencer Moose Lodge for 20 Body Cameras**
- **Implementation of City Hall kiosk to improve customer flow and minimize waiting time**
- **Received accolades from citizens on clean-up efforts following January 22, 2016 Snow and Ice Storm**

7. Partner with key stakeholders to define the brand of Lexington (City Manager's Office, ALL Departments)

- a) Continue public relations contract with Lou Hammond and Associates, Inc. with a goal of 6 publications or new market exposures promoting the City of Lexington
- b) Continue to explore new entertainment options
- c) Partner with Lexington Tourism Authority for Wayfinding signage project

Accomplishments:

- Included on Foxnews.com "11 Sites that are distinctly American"
- Hosted North Carolina League of Municipalities "A Way Forward to Redevelop Public Spaces" Lexington Mobile Workshop
- Included in *Only in Your State* list of "The 10 Best Places to Retire in North Carolina" and **One of 15 "Best Pics Captured in North Carolina" featuring Annual Uptown Boo Bash**
- Featured in *The New Yorker* article "In Defense of the True 'Cue'"
- Renewed contract with Lou Hammond and Associates, Inc. to provide public relations professional services
- Continued Partnership with Lexington Tourism Authority for installation of Wayfinding Signage Project
- Introduced new "Honor First" patch for the Lexington Police Department
- One of 15 "Best Pics Captured in North Carolina" featured Annual Uptown Boo Bash
- **Contracted with NC FolkLife to document legendary Pit Masters and historical Becks BBQ Pits in City Hall**
- **Lexington featured as centerpiece in February "Barbecue" issue of Our State magazine**
- **Lexington Barbecue Festival successfully landed NFL Sunday Night Football Bus to annual festival**
- **Music in the Park series held at Finch Park**
- **Recognized as one of the 50 Safest Cities in North Carolina**
- **Governor McCrory participated in annual Veterans Day Parade**
- **Renewed contract with Lou Hammond and Associates, Inc. to provide public relations professional services**

8. Support development of “green” initiatives (Recycling & Waste Collection, ALL Departments)

- a) Install recycling bins in Uptown Lexington
- b) Expand roll-out recycling service to Tuesday’s collection route
- c) Supervisors actively monitor mileage on a regular basis and select fuel efficient equipment when possible, to make efforts for more efficient routes and fuel savings
- d) Promote participation with Friends of Greenway in Davidson County which is working on a greenway at Lake Thom-a-Lex

Accomplishments:

- Converted Uptown Lexington Decorative Lights to LED
- Added recycling capability at Commons on the Green facility
- **Installed recycling bins in Uptown Lexington District**
- **Over 2,000 Rollout Recycling phase-in program expanded to Tuesday’s route**
- **City publically encourages “Green” initiative efforts with use of New Hybrid Refuse Trucks partly funded by CMAQ grant**
- **Supervisors continually monitor mileage on a regular basis and select fuel efficient equipment when possible, to make efforts for more efficient routes and fuel savings**
- **Implemented electronic open enrollment for paperless annual benefit elections for employees**
- **Retiree bank drafts implemented for health insurance premiums**

9. Attract and pursue a diverse, professional staff that is well trained and skilled and reflects the community (Human Resources, ALL Departments)

- a) Convene a time-limited diversity and inclusion employee advisory group in FY15-16
- b) Through collaboration with higher education systems, pursue and capitalize on opportunities to educate targeted student groups on local government careers and employment
- c) Continue support of City Council’s minority scholarship given through Davidson County Community College for Basic Law Enforcement Training
- d) Provide professional training to City officials via Servant Leadership, FBI LEEDA, Piedmont Leadership Academy (Guilford Tech) and Piedmont Leadership School (Rowan/Cabarrus Community College)

Accomplishments:

- Participated in Veteran’s Appreciation and Community Job Fair
- **DCCC Minority Scholarship Program for Basic Law Enforcement Training**
- **Police Department provides professional training through Servant Leadership, FBI LEEDA, Piedmont Leadership Academy (Guilford Tech) and Piedmont Leadership School (Rowan/Cabarrus Community College)**
- **Servant Leadership Program conducted at Police Training Center for 60 employees in leadership positions**
- **Lexington Police Officer Ivey McDaniel named Crimestopper Officer of the Year**
- **Lexington Female Firefighter Laura Ryggs named Firefighter of the Year**
- **Lexington Police Chief Mark Sink named Vice Chair of Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**
- **City staff provided “hands on” expertise in many areas of the Commons on the Green and Lexington Aquatic Park renovation and construction projects**
- **Diversity and Inclusion training conducted for City Council and 70 employees citywide**

10. Continue to address homeownership, housing options, blighted neighborhoods and neighborhood stabilization (*City Manager's Office, Business and Community Development*)

- a) Assist developers in seeking North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA) tax credits
- b) Maximize annual budget allowance to demolish dilapidated structures, as well as junk and debris clean-ups
- c) Review and revise Minimum Housing Code in accordance with State law

Accomplishments:

- Coordinated 2012 Scattered Site Housing Program Grant with rehabilitation of two houses in Lexington
- **Demolished 23 dilapidated structures from July 1, 2015 to present**
- **Approved Major Zoning Permit for The Arbor at Cotton Grove Apartment Complex on Fritts Street**